

CARTSNEWS

The Official Journal of the Carolina Token Society

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to all CARTS members,

I hope that you are not having to dig yourself out from under the snow to get to the mailbox, but if you are, here's some good news.

Once again CARTS is having its "May" meeting in April—on **April 30** in fact. Don Bailey has made all the arrangements to rent the same meeting room that we used back in November 2014. The meeting will take place at the **Holiday Inn Express, 161 Sha Lane, Spartanburg, SC**. The hotel is off Interstate 85 at exit 78. If coming from the west, exit, turn left and cross I-85. Once you are across the interstate, turn right onto Sha Lane—between the Sunoco station and the Subway sandwich shop. You will see the hotel just ahead. Coming from the east, exit, turn right, and turn right again almost immediately onto Sha Lane. If you approach Spartanburg from the north or south on I-26, take I-85N (east) and proceed as above. I look forward to seeing all of you there. Please mark the date in your calendars – April 30, from 8AM to Noon.

Regards, Tony Chibbaro, President of CARTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

You missed a very nice meeting if you were not at the November meeting in Newberry. Tony's presentation of his favorite tokens was especially interesting. Be sure and note the info, opposite, on the upcoming gathering in North Spartanburg.

And, **be sure to pay your dues**. If you have not paid you should find an envelope enclosed, addressed to the treasurer.

Finally, recruit a new member!

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Comments, suggestions, reactions, (maybe even) criticism, will be gratefully accepted. Let us know! **Articles, New Finds, Announcements, and Classifieds to Don Bailey only! Dues to Bob King only!**

North Carolina Token Collector

Cataloger of North Carolina
Buyer of singles or collections
Trader list for all states
Enthusiastic researcher

Robert (Bob) S. King 709 Cardinal Dr.
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Want to buy southern states
tokens,
mavericks found in North
Carolina.

Want to buy R.G. Dun and Bradstreet
Reference Books. Need 1963 & newer,
1882, 1884 & 1897.

FINDING A "PIONEER" IN NORTH CAROLINA

Lamar Bland

This "Pioneer" token appeared in a North Carolina coin shop.



Pioneer/ Manufacturing Co./ (Encircling) 3 1/3 // (same) –
Rd, Al, 24 mm.

After a Google source indicated North Carolina was a possible location for this

company, I discovered a booklet by Col. G. Webb and L.E. Norryce: *WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA: THE NATURAL GEOGRAPHICAL GATEWAY*. Issued by the Winston-Salem Board of Trade in 1905, it advised that "an industry to be known as the Pioneer Manufacturing Company, for the manufacture of ladies' muslin, wool and silk underwear, and representing a capital stock of \$50,000 is practically in operation now (August 15)." There is muted excitement in their reference.

This August, 1905 excitement increased when the *WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL* of September 26 headlined the company as "ONLY ONE OF KIND IN SOUTH, beginning business in this city tomorrow morning, employing between 60 and 75 operatives." Company machinery would be housed in "the Hampton store, on main street, Salem until a new building is erected, which will be some time during the coming year." The article named company officers—A. M. Brown, L.W. Brown, and Chas. C. Vaughan—and indicated a glowing forecast: "With such men as its stockholders and officers, success is assured for the new enterprise."

By the next month, the company had such a reputation that both the neighboring town of Greensboro, and Greenville (South Carolina) offered sites for building the plant (*WESTERN SENTINAL* newspaper, Oct. 26). The structure was built, however, at 439 Liberty Street in Winston.

Sadly, their "pioneering" ended two years later. W.A. Blair posted a RECEIVERS SALE notice in the *WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL* of May 14, 1907, indicating a public auction of all the company property at the Liberty Street site. The building would contain "all necessary machinery for making ladies' underwear as follows: 42 plain sewers, 3 post 2 needle machines, 2 flat bed needle machines, 3 button hole machines, 1 union

button sewer, 2 tuckers, 3 Cyl singer arm machines, 56 tables complete, 2 tuck fullers and attachments, 1 ruffler, 1 1-needle hemstitch machine, 1 5 hp electric motor, sewing attachments for machines. Also a large lot of manufactured shirt waists, skirts, night-gowns, etc.” The sale occurred in June. A.A. Myers paid \$969 cash for all the holdings.

Why did the company fail so quickly? Was it because of making “ladies’ muslin, wool and silk underwear”; being “the only one of its kind in the South” for such products; starting in 1905 Winston-Salem? The Hanes family already had their facilities by then—Shamrock Hosiery Mills in 1901, and P.H. Hanes Knitting Company in 1902. Pioneer leaders miscalculated the demand for their “luxury” products, and their local competition.

I learned of this newspaper record from Fam Brownlee, the archivist in the North Carolina room of the Forsyth County Public Library. A long-time Winston-Salem resident, he had not previously heard of Pioneer Manufacturing Company. Though the articles revealed the location sites for the company, Brownlee did not know of any surviving business artifacts. I had one to report—the token.

Given Pioneer’s short existence, it seems likely there was no company store where scrip could be used. So the token’s 3 1/3 reference must suggest that workers were paid through their piece-work. The amazing inventory listed in the RECEIVERS notice describes the workers’ environment. Lots of “machines” are named, but only one “5 h(orse)p(ower) electric motor.” The number of “complete tables” is 56, which virtually matches the number of “operatives” reported in the newspapers. References to sewing recur. Much of this labor was by hand.

The token, therefore, becomes the “pioneer” which lasted for the company story to be re-told.

NORTH CAROLINA NEW FINDS

Bob King

Each of the two new finds in this issue of the CARTS newsletter is possibly unique. I hadn’t heard of either token prior to acquiring them.



GOOD ON EACH ORDER / THE STANDARD / CLOTHING CO. / EVERYTHING IN / MEN’S AND BOYS’ / READY-TO-WEAR / STETSON HATS / BREVARD, N.C. // GOOD FOR / \$1.00 / ON A / CASH PURCHASE / OF / \$20.00 / OR OVER – R, Al, 38mm Rare, possibly unique

Note:

The Standard Clothing Company was in business from 1921 through 1927 selling men’s and Boys’ clothing.



G.E. FISLER, / (ORN.) / ELIZABETHTOWN / N.C. // (LARGE 5 INSIDE RAYS) - RD AL 22mm Rare, possibly unique.

Note:

G.E. Fisler manufactured lumber and shingles in Elizabethtown from 1914 through 1917.

NEW FINDS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA

Tony Chibbaro



Schmonsees / (design) / 14 / Reid St. // Good For / (star) 5¢ (star) / Cigar, (Charleston, S.C.) – aluminum, 21mm.

Although he opened a saloon at 14 Reid Street in the late 1880s, Claus H. “Charles” Schmonsees was probably not the issuer of the token illustrated above. Instead, it was likely struck and circulated after his death by one, or both, of his sons. When the elder Schmonsees died in 1902, the business passed into the hands of his oldest son, John H. Schmonsees (1884-1929). John ran the store, which had become a grocery after the South Carolina Dispensary Act came into effect in 1893, until 1904.

No information on the business could be found between 1904 and 1909, but in 1910 John Schmonsees partnered with his brother Louis in the East Side Grocery Company, which they opened at the location of the original store at 14 Reid Street. The following year a second location was opened, at 79 Columbus Street. In 1912, the businesses at the two addresses were listed individually, with Louis C. Schmonsees (1887-1961) operating a grocery at 14 Reid Street and John H. Schmonsees operating a cigar store and grocery at 79 Columbus Street, the location at which a second token was issued (see page 68 in *South Carolina Tokens*). There is no mention of the Eastside Grocery Company in 1912, so perhaps the brothers had gone their separate ways by then. Both individual businesses

were short-lived, however, as Louis was in another line of work in 1913, and by 1915 John H. Schmonsees was employed as an insurance agent for the Life Insurance Company of Virginia, for whom he would work until his death in 1929.



Tuxbury / Mercantile / Co. // Good For / 1.10 / In / Merchandise, (Charleston, S.C.) – brass, 33mm.

Incorporated in May of 1905 by Alfred C. Tuxbury (1844-1913) and his son-in-law Charles Hill, the A. C. Tuxbury Lumber Company was one of the largest lumber producers in the state. During its 33 years of operation the company cut 17 million board feet of North Carolina pine lumber from the thousands of acres of timberland it controlled in Charleston and Berkeley Counties. A large sawmill was located a bit north of the city of Charleston on Shipyard Creek, a tributary of the Cooper River, and logs were rafted to it from several different locations.

After cutting an initial tract of timber near Magnolia Gardens on the Ashley River, the company turned its attention to tracts at Cote Bas, Bushy Park, and Cypress Gardens, all in Berkeley County. One of the firm’s largest operations, however, was at Cainhoy on the Wando River where it maintained a landing from which a rail line spanned over 20 miles to a logging camp at Bethera, and from there into Wall Eye Swamp. By 1917 the company’s logging line was 38 miles long and extended to Bonneau and Jamestown.

In 1924 the company purchased tracts of timber in Charleston County near Awensdaw and McClellanville. The company’s logging

camp was dismantled and moved from Bethera to Awensdaw. The new camp at Awensdaw contained a commissary as before, but also included a turpentine still and was in operation well into the 1930s. In 1937 the mill near Charleston suffered a disastrous fire and the company decided to shutter its operations. Much of the company's timberland had already been sold to the federal government, which along with what had been purchased from the North State Lumber Co., formed the nucleus of the Francis Marion National Forest.

The company's president and founder, Alfred Colburn Tuxbury (1844-1913) was born and grew up in Saco, Maine. After several years of experience in the South and West, Tuxbury entered the lumber business in 1877 at North Tonawanda, New York. Over the years he was associated with the W.H. Sawyer Lumber Co., the Northern Lumber Co., and the J.W. Turnbull Lumber Co., as well as the firm which carried his name. When he died in 1913, the company's reins were taken over by his son-in-law Charles Hill, who continued to oversee the firm from its New York office. Locally, the company was guided by vice president F.G. Davies and superintendent J.W. Williams.

Over the years the company operated commissaries at four separate locations. In Charleston, the commissary was located on Meeting Street Road at Station 6½. In its latter years, it was called the Tuxbury Mercantile Company and was sold to Wilbur Spruill when the company shut down operations in 1937. The commissary at Bethera operated for several years and there exists at least one token with that town name in its inscription (see page 41 in *South Carolina Tokens*). When the company's primary lumber camp was moved to Awensdaw, the commissary which was opened there was called the Awensdaw Mercantile Company. At least three different tokens are cataloged at that location (see page 32-33 in

South Carolina Tokens). A fourth store was located at "Camp Number 2", a site which has not yet been identified and its only known token has been cataloged at Charleston until its location is determined.



Company "E", 51st Infantry / 5 (in circle) / (design) // Good For / 5¢ / In Trade, (Camp Wadsworth, S.C.) – aluminum, 26mm.

Camp Wadsworth was organized in July 1917 in Spartanburg County as a training base for troops bound for Europe during World War I. The camp was named after General James Wadsworth, a New Yorker who led Union troops until his death in the Wilderness Campaign in 1864. Over 100,000 soldiers were trained at Camp Wadsworth by the war's end. The camp was deactivated in 1919.

The 6th, 27th, and 96th Divisions of the U.S. Army trained at Camp Wadsworth before deployment to Europe. The 51st Infantry Regiment was part of the 11th Infantry Brigade (part of the 6th Division) and trained there until the brigade was shipped to France in July of 1918 and participated in the Meuse-Argonne offensive in November of 1918. After the war the regiment was inactivated at Camp Grant, Illinois. The token cataloged above may have also been utilized at other locations at which this unit was stationed before and after deployment, which means that it may have also been used at Chickamauga Park, Georgia prior to the war and at Camp Grant, Illinois after the war.

Other denominations discovered for previously reported issuers are:

The L.D. Cullum Co., Batesburg, S.C. – 5¢, round, brass

Hermitage Cotton Mills Store, Camden, S.C. – 1¢, square, aluminum

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED

Will pay \$400 each for tokens from Angelus, Dunbarton, or Davis Station, South Carolina. Tokens must have the town and state names on them and must be in nice condition. Tony Chibbaro, PO Box 420, Prosperity, SC 29127, email: chibbaro@mindspring.com, cellphone: 803-530-3668

SALE

DOBSON, NC 10¢ token of W. E. Reid Co. Almost uncirculated condition. \$35.00 postpaid. Don Bailey, PO Box 1272, Etowah, NC 28729. 828-891-3501 or ELADON@MORRISBB.NET

MISCELLEANOUS

Do you have a North Carolina Token that you don't know the history of? If so, send a complete description of the obverse and reverse and I will return to you the dates of the business operation and the type of business represented by the token. Bob King, 709 Cardinal Dr., Brevard, NC 28712 tokenaddict@comporium.net 828-883-8028

CARTS Membership and Dues: Application for membership in CARTS is invited from anyone interested in the exonomia of the two Carolinas. Annual dues are \$10.00 and should be mailed to the treasurer, Bob King. Checks should be made payable to CARTS.

CARTSNEWS: CARTSNEWS, the newsletter of CARTS, is published four times per year in February, May, August, and November.

Advertising: Each member is encouraged to submit one classified ad per issue. These ads are free to members. Free ads should be no more than 50 words in length. No ads will be run continuously; a new ad must be submitted for each issue. The editor reserves the right to edit ads for length and any ad thought not to be in the best interest of the hobby will be rejected. Deadline for classified ads is the same as for paid ads (see below).

Paid advertising is also solicited. The rate per issue for paid ads is as follows. One quarter page \$3.00, one half page \$6.00, and full page \$11.00. Any paid advertising, along with payment, should be sent to the editor by the fifteenth of that month before the month of issue. So, for example, advertising copy for the May issue should be received by the editor by April 15. Camera ready copy will be accepted, but the editor will also compose ads from your rough copy if you desire. As with free advertising the editor may reject any ad thought not in the best interest of CARTS or the hobby at large.